Improvement of Gulbarga airport

920. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the work of improvement of Gulbarga airport;

(b) the total amount spent on this till date; and

(c) the details of the total budgetary funds alloted during the year 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No airport exists at Gulbarga.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of independent Regulator for Civil Aviation

921. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that civil aviation is the only sector which has no independent Regulator on the lines of TRAI;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Planning Commission has strongly recommended for the setting up of independent Regulator to address technical, management, operational, licensing, safety and security related problems; and

(d) if so, whether GoMs will address the aspect of the Planning Commission and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) A draft Bill regarding setting up of an Airport Economic Regulatory Authority has been approved by the Government for introduction in the Parliament shortly.

Collision of vehicles at IGIA, New Delhi

922. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been a large number of accidents of collision of vehicles at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have not given adequate attention towards the safety of passengers, drivers of tractors and others; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?